

REMARKS

With entry of this amendment, claims 10-12, 14-20 and 22-26 will be pending. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 14-16, 19, 20, 24, and 25 are allowed. Nonelected claims have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 17-18 and 22-23 have been amended to overcome indefiniteness rejections. Claim 21 has been canceled and rewritten as claim 26 to more clearly recite the specifically claimed embodiment. Support for the amended claims can be found in the originally filed claims and throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments will put the claims into allowable form or reduce the issues for appeal, and do not present any new issues for consideration. Entry and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 17, 18, 22, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. In response to the Examiner's comments, the term "oligomers" in claims 17 and 18 has been changed to "compounds". The Examiner pointed out that claims 22 and 23 were dependent on a canceled claim. Reference to claim 7 has been canceled, as the claims recite specific compounds and a reference back to claim 7 is therefore unnecessary. Furthermore, claims 22 and 23 have been amended to recite "compound" rather than "oligomer" for clarity. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner noted that the method recited would result in compounds 4a and 6a and not in compounds of the scope of claim 19, from which it depended. Claim 21 has been rewritten as claim 26 to be limited to synthesis of compounds 4a and 6a and is believed to be free of the rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/25/05

L. A. Hobbs
Ann S. Hobbs, Ph.D.
Registration No. 36,830
VENABLE
Post Office Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 344-4800
Telefax: (202) 344-8300